

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A transport format determination apparatus determining, for each transport channel, transport formats to be used for supplying data every data-arrival-interval, wherein a plurality of transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are free to be multiplexed with each other, and said transport format determination apparatus including:

a detecting unit for detecting a fault of data on said plurality of transport channels; and

a transport format combination indicator restricting unit for determining at least one first data-arrival-interval of at least one first transport channel, based on a result, from said detecting unit, of detecting fault of data on a second transport channel having a second data-arrival-interval shorter than said at least one first data-arrival-interval, and said transport format combination indicator restricting unit for restricting a candidate of transport format combination indicators to be used for decoding subsequently-received data and for isolating transfer blocks, if a plurality of said transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are multiplexed with each other.

2. (original) The transport format determination apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transport format combination indicator restricting unit restricts said candidate of transport format combination indicators, based on said at least one first data-arrival-interval as determined.

3. (original) The transport format determination apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transport format combination indicator restricting unit determines a transport format of a transport channel which is currently free of a data-arrival-interval boundary, based on a current transport format combination indicator, and, makes null other transport format than said determined transport format, if said detecting unit has not detected a fault of data on said plurality of transport channels.

4. (original) The transport format determination apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transport format combination indicator restricting unit makes effective each transport format of each transport channel which has a data-arrival-interval boundary.

5. (original) The transport format determination apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further including:

a transport format combination indicator determination unit for removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format and decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator, when at least one of said transport channels becomes having a data-arrival-interval boundary.

6. (original) The transport format determination apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further including:

a transport format combination indicator determination unit for removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format and decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator at a boundary of said transport blocks.

7. (original) A transport format determination method of determining, for each transport channel, transport formats to be used for supplying data every data-arrival-interval, wherein a plurality of transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are free to be multiplexed with each other, and said transport format determination method including:

detecting a fault of data on said plurality of transport channels; and

determining at least one first data-arrival-interval of at least one first transport channel, based on a result of detecting fault of data on a second transport channel having a second data-arrival-interval shorter than said at least one first data-arrival-interval, and restricting a candidate of transport format combination indicators to be used for decoding subsequently-received data and for isolating transfer blocks, if a plurality of said transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are multiplexed with each other.

8. (original) The transport format determination method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said candidate of transport format combination indicators is restricted based on said at least one first data-arrival-interval as determined.

9. (original) The transport format determination method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a transport format of a transport channel, which is currently free of a data-arrival-interval boundary, is determined, based on a current transport format combination indicator, and other transport format than said determined transport format is made null, if no fault of data has been detected on said plurality of transport channels.

10. (original) The transport format determination method as claimed in claim 7, wherein each transport format of

each transport channel, which has a data-arrival-interval boundary, is made effective.

11. (original) The transport format determination method as claimed in claim 7, further including:

removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format, and decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator, when at least one of said transport channels becomes having a data-arrival-interval boundary.

12. (original) The transport format determination method as claimed in claim 7, further including:

removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format and decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator at a boundary of said transport blocks.

13. (currently amended) A program ~~to be executed~~ storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to control the computer to function for implementing a transport format determination method, comprising the steps of:

determining, for each transport channel, transport formats to be used for supplying data every data-arrival-interval, wherein a plurality of transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are free to be multiplexed with each other;
~~, and said program including:~~

detecting a fault of data on said plurality of transport channels; and

determining at least one first data-arrival-interval of at least one first transport channel, based on a result of detecting fault of data on a second transport channel having a second data-arrival-interval shorter than said at least one first data-arrival-interval, and restricting a candidate of transport format combination indicators to be used for decoding subsequently-received data and for isolating transfer blocks, if a plurality of said transport channels different in data-arrival-interval are multiplexed with each other.

14. (currently amended) The program storage medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said candidate of transport format combination indicators is restricted based on said at least one first data-arrival-interval as determined.

15. (currently amended) The program storage medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein a transport format of a transport channel, which is currently free of a data-arrival-interval

boundary, is determined, based on a current transport format combination indicator, and other transport format than said determined transport format is made null, if no fault of data has been detected on said plurality of transport channels.

16. (currently amended) The program storage medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein each transport format of each transport channel, which has a data-arrival-interval boundary, is made effective.

17. (currently amended) The program storage medium as claimed in claim 13, further including instructions executable by the computer to control the computer to function for:

removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format, and decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator, when at least one of said transport channels becomes having a data-arrival-interval boundary.

18. (currently amended) The program storage medium as claimed in claim 13, further including instructions executable by the computer to control the computer to function for:

removing, from said candidate, a transport format combination indicator including a null transport format and

decoding other transport format combination indicator than said removed transport format combination indicator at a boundary of said transport blocks.